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2. (Amended) The computer system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the directories is LDAP compliant.

5. (Amended) The computer system of claim 1, wherein the query interface is formatted in HTML.

6. (Amended) The computer system of claim 1, further comprising an administrator utility to configure the categories and the query interface.

7. (Amended) A method in a computer system, comprising:

- creating a directory shell comprising one or more categories;
- associating said directory shell with one or more directories, wherein each directory comprises a plurality of directory objects having object attributes and attribute data;
- associating each of said categories with one or more directory objects and at least a portion of the object attributes corresponding to the directory objects;
- requesting a search for query data against a selected category; and
- searching the one or more directories for the query data against the attribute data corresponding to the directory objects and object attributes associated with the selected category.

8. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein associating categories includes mapping category attributes with object attributes.

9. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein [the step of] requesting a search includes formatting a Boolean search.

10. (Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein the creating, associating with directories, associating with directory objects, requesting, and searching are performed sequentially.

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11. (Amended) A computer readable medium comprising a plurality of computer instructions for performing a method comprising:
 - creating a directory shell comprising one or more categories;
 - associating said directory shell with one or more directories, wherein each directory comprises a plurality of directory objects having object attributes and attribute data;
 - associating each of said categories with one or more directory objects and at least a portion of the object attributes corresponding to the directory objects;
 - requesting a search for query data against a selected category; and
 - searching the one or more directories for the query data against the attribute data corresponding to the directory objects and object attributes associated with the selected category.
12. (Amended) A propagated signal comprising a plurality of computer instructions for performing a method comprising:
 - creating a directory shell comprising one or more categories;
 - associating said directory shell with one or more directories, wherein each directory comprises a plurality of directory objects having object attributes and attribute data;
 - associating each of said categories with one or more directory objects and at least a portion of the object attributes corresponding to the directory objects;
 - requesting a search for query data against a selected category; and
 - searching the one or more directories for the query data against the attribute data corresponding to the directory objects and object attributes associated with the selected category.
13. (Amended) A data structure, comprising:
 - one or more directories, each directory comprising a plurality of classes with attributes and a plurality of objects instantiated from